

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00041 120820Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00  
EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15  
OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00  
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R 111641Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5571  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS LUXEMBOURG 0041

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: EEC, LU  
SUBJ: THORN'S SPEECH ON EEC

SUMMARY: IN A JANUARY 11 SPEECH ON THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TO  
THE  
AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION, PRIME MINISTER THORN EMPHASIZED  
THAT AN ECONOMICALLY STRONG AND POLITICALLY COHESIVE EEC WOULD SERVE  
THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE ENTIRE FREE WORLD. HE GAV  
GAVE,  
HOWEVER, A PREDICTABLY GLOOMY ACCOUNT OF THE CURRENT STATE OF  
PROGRESS  
TOWARDS INTERGRATION. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON LUXEMBOURG'S  
ATTITUDE  
TOWARDS A NEW PUERTO RICAN TYPE SUMMIT (SEPTEL), THORN GAVE AN IRONIC  
REPLY BUT MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE BELIEVES A MEANINGFUL AND INCLUSIVE  
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PAGE 02 LUXEMB 00041 120820Z

DIALOGUE AMONG THE U.S., JAPAN, CANADA AND THE EEC IN THE NEAR FUTURE  
IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE. HE IMPLIED THAT THE QUESTION OF WHETHER AND  
HOW THE SMALLER EEC STATES ARE REPRESENTED IS AN INTERNAL EEC  
PROBLEM. FULL TEXT OF THORN'S REMARKS MAILED TO THE DEPARTMENT  
(EUR/NE). END SUMMARY.

1. IN LINE WITH VIEWS THORN HAS EXPRESSED ON SEVERAL

OCCASIONS RECENTLY, HE DEPLORED THE LACK OF EEC PROGRESS TOWARDS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INTEGRATION. HE UNDERScoreD THE PROBLEM OF DEFINING COMMON EEC ECONOMIC POLICIES BY POINTING OUT THAT CURRENT INFLATION RATES VARY AMONG THE MEMBER STATES FROM 4-21 PERCENT A YEAR. HE ALSO DEPLORED THE LACK OF A COMMON ENERGY POLICY AND ARGUED THAT THE MEMBER STATES ARE DANGEROUSLY FOOT-DRAGGING IN DEVELOPING ALTERNATE SOURCES OF ENERGY, PARTICULARLY NUCLEAR ENERGY.

2. THORN PAINTED AN EQUALLY GLOOMY PICTURE OF PROGRESS--OR THE LACK OF IT--IN THE POLITICAL SPHERE. ON KEY EXTERNAL RELATIONS WITH THE LESSER DEVELOPED WORLD, HE EXPRESSED REGRET THAT THE NORTH-SOUTH NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED AND URGED THt THEY BE REVIVED. HE WARNED THAT MORE EQUITABLE AND STABLE ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND UNDER-DEVELOPED NATIONS MUST BE NEGOTIATED ON AN URGENT BASIS OR CONFRONTATION BORN OF DESPERATION WOULD BE THE RESULT.

3. THORN SAID THAT ENLARGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY WOULD COMPOUND ALL OF THE EEC'S PROBLEMS. THE DILEMMA, IN HIS VIEW, IS THAT THE WESTERN DEMOCRACIES HAVE A REAL INTEREST IN INCLUDING SPAIN, GREECE, PORTUGAL, AND TURKEY IN THE COMMUNITY BUT THE PRICE MAY BE THAT THE COMMUNITY COULD BECOME LITTLE MORE THAN A VAST FREE-TRADE AREA. HE ADDED THAT IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE DEMOCRATIC TRENDS IN SPAIN BUT CAUTIONED THAT SPAIN, AS AN INDUSTRIALIZED NATION, CANNOT EXPECT "SOFT CONDITIONS" FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EEC.

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PAGE 03 LUXEMB 00041 120820Z

4. THORN SINGLED OUT THE DECISION IN FAVOR OF A DIRECTLY-ELECTED EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AS A POSITIVE STEP. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE SO-CALLED DEVELOPMENT OF "EURO-COMMUNISM" COULD CREATE PROBLEMS WITHIN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AS WELL AS WITHIN THE MEMBER STATES. IF EURO-COMMUNISM REPRESENTED A REAL IDEOLOGICAL BREAK FROM THE SOVIET VERSION OF MARXISM,IT WOULD BE A WELCOMED DEVELOPMENT. BUT, HE SAID, IN HIS VIEW THE PLEDGES OF FRENCHAND ITALIAN COMMUNISTS TO RESPECT INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES ARE SIMPLY WINDOW DRESSING.

5. THORN CONCLUDED ON THE UP-BEAT BY SAYING THAT DESPITE ALL THESE PROBLEMS AND REASONS FOR DISCOURAGEMENT HE REMAINS OPTIMISTIC THAT THE COMMUNITY STILL HAS A FUTURE. IF THE TINDEMANS'S REPORT IS DEAD, THE IDEAS THEREIN ARE STILL LOGICAL AND, WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT, A MEANS WILL BE FOUND TO IMPLEMENT THEM. IN THIS RESPECT HE REEMPHASIZED THAT THE COMMON TIES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE WILL INSURE THAT THE EXISTENCE OF A STRONG, UNITED EEC WILL SERVE U.S. INTERESTS. GINN

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## Message Attributes

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